COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT



1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN FIRE CHIEF FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

(323) 881-2401

August 25, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

REQUEST APPROVAL OF TAX RATE LEVY FOR THE 2004-05 VOTER-APPROVED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT SPECIAL TAX (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR HONORABLE BOARD, ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:

- 1. Adopt the attached resolution fixing the Fiscal Year 2004-05 tax rate for the Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County voter-approved special tax, setting the rate per single family home at \$46.93, with all other rates proportionately adjusted, for a total levy of approximately \$52.7 million in Fiscal Year 2004-05 which will reduce the revenue the Fire District receives by \$3.4 million from last fiscal year to be expended on fire protection and emergency medical services throughout the Fire District.
- 2. Instruct the Fire Chief and the Auditor-Controller to take all actions necessary to implement the special tax levy for Fiscal Year 2004-05.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the attached resolution will levy the Consolidated Fire Protection District's (District's) special tax at \$46.93 per single family home, a reduction of \$3.00 per home or 6 percent from last year's levy, with proportional reductions for all other property use types.

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

The Honorable Board of Supervisors August 25, 2004 Page 2

The State has begun its anticipated ERAF repayments to the District, and book closing has confirmed the District's property tax revenues were up 9.6% in 2003-04. These positive developments, coupled with an anticipated 6% growth in property tax revenues in 2004-05, will provide sufficient revenue to recommend a 6% decrease in the special tax levy while maintaining emergency service levels and implementing some modest enhancements. If approved, this will be the second consecutive year a reduction in the special tax has been authorized by your Board. Last year, a 5.7% reduction, equating to \$3 per single family home, was implemented.

Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee

The Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee (ICOC) met on August 18, 2004, and made the legally required annual finding that the District is using the special tax funds only for emergency services. In addition, the ICOC unanimously supported the recommended reduction in the special tax rate.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The District's adopted 2004-05 Budget reflects an anticipated increase in the special tax of 2%. However, a reduction in the Special Tax levy as detailed above is now recommended.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

California Health and Safety Code Section 13911 and California Government Code Section 50075 et seq. authorize the levying of the special tax. Your Board's approval of the attached resolution will levy the special tax at a rate of \$46.93 per single family home, with rates that vary for other property use types as specified in the resolution.

County Counsel has approved the resolution as to form.

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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Levying the special tax rate at \$46.93 per single family home, with rates that vary for other property use types as specified in the resolution, will maintain essential funding to continue providing fire protection and emergency medical services to the residents of Los Angeles County protected by the District, while maintaining the financial stability of the District.

Respectfully submitted,

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

PMF:ip

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer
 County Counsel
 Auditor-Controller
 Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIXING THE SPECIAL TAX RATE FOR THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AND LEVYING THE SPECIAL TAX UPON THE TAXABLE PROPERTY OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR THE

FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005

WHEREAS, on June 3, 1997, the voters within the cities of Agoura Hills, Artesia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bell, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Bradbury, Calabasas, Carson, Cerritos, Claremont, Cudahy, Diamond Bar, Duarte, Glendora, Hawaiian Gardens, Hidden Hills, Huntington Park, Industry, Irwindale, La Canada Flintridge, Lakewood, La Mirada, Lancaster, La Puente, Lawndale, Lomita, Malibu, Maywood, Norwalk, Palmdale, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Rosemead, San Dimas, Santa Clarita, Signal Hill, South El Monte, South Gate, Temple City, Walnut, West Hollywood, Westlake Village and Whittier, and within the unincorporated area of the County of Los Angeles (the "County"), approved a special tax for fire protection and paramedic services (the "special tax"); and

WHEREAS, certain special tax rates were approved, based upon property use type and size of improvements, to be annually increased by a maximum of the lesser of (i) 2 percent or (ii) the California Consumer Price Index, which maximum special tax

rates are herein specified in Exhibit 1 attached to this Resolution, hereinafter referred to as "maximum rates"; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors may annually levy an amount up to the maximum rates for the special tax as approved by the voters; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to levy the special tax at rates less than the maximum rates allowed, as specified and fixed in Exhibit 2 attached to this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on	the day of September, 2004, adopted by
the Board of Supervisors of the County	of Los Angeles and ex-officio the governing
body of all other special assessment an	d taxing districts, agencies and authorities for
which said Board so acts.	
	VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, Executive Officer- Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles
	By Deputy

SUMMARY OF MAXIMUM RATES FOR PROPOSITION E

VOTER-APPROVED SPECIAL TAX FOR THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

	MAXIMUM RATES* (1.87% INCREASE)		
LAND USE	2003-2004	2004-2005	
Single Family Residential	\$53.99	\$55.00	
Mobile Home in Park	26.99	27.49	
Multiple Family Residential + Square Footage Rate (over 1,555 sq. ft.) + Square Footage Rate with sprinkler credit (over 1,555 sq. ft.)	68.19 0.0069 0.0066	69.47 0.0070 0.0067	
Non-Residential + Square Footage Rate (over 1,555 sq. ft.)** + Square Footage Rate with sprinkler credit (over 1,555 sq. ft.)**	65.34 0.0440 0.0422	66.56 0.0448 0.0430	
High Rise + Square Footage Rate (over 1,555 sq. ft.)** + Square Footage Rate with sprinkler credit (over 1,555 sq. ft.)**	79.55 0.0537 0.0513	81.04 0.0547 0.0523	
Special Use + Square Footage Rate (over 1,555 sq. ft.)** + Square Footage Rate with sprinkler credit (over 1,555 sq. ft.)**	99.43 0.0670 0.0641	101.29 0.0683 0.0653	
Vacant-2 acres or less Vacant-2+ acres to 10 acres Vacant-10+ acres to 50 acres Vacant-50+ acres	13.49 17.82 35.62 53.99	13.74 18.15 36.29 55.00	

^{*}Maximum rates may not necessarily be the actual rates imposed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

**Capped at 100,000 square feet.

See Appendix A to the Amended and Restated Resolution of the Board of Supervisors March 4, 1997 for a full explanation of land use categories and the application of the special tax rates.

PROPOSITION E — VOTER-APPROVED SPECIAL TAX FOR THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Special Tax Rates for Fiscal Year 2004-2005

Land Use	Special Tax Rate	Special Tax Rate w/Sprinkler Credit	
Single Family Residential	\$46.93	NOT APPLICABLE	
Mobile Home in Park	\$23.46	NOT APPLICABLE	
Multiple Family Residential	\$59.28 + \$.0060 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.	\$59.28 + \$.0057 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.	
Non-Residential	\$56.80 + \$.0383 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*	\$56.80 + \$.0368 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*	
High Rise	\$69.16 + \$.0466 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*	\$69.16 + \$.0446 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*	
Special Use	\$86.43 + \$.0583 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*	\$86.43 + \$.0556 per sq. ft. over 1,555 sq. ft.*	
Vacant Land - 2 acres or less	\$11.73	NOT APPLICABLE	
Vacant Land - more than 2 acres and less than or equal to 10 acres	\$15.49	NOT APPLICABLE	
Vacant Land - more than 10 acres and less than or equal to 50 acres	\$30.96	NOT APPLICABLE	
Vacant Land - more than 50 acres	\$46.93	NOT APPLICABLE	

^{*}Capped at 100,000 square feet per parcel.